

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

**LISTING OF CLAIMS:**

1. (Currently Amended) Target support assembly (I), comprising a support sleeve (2) on which is arranged a target lining that is formed by a target sleeve (4) that is slid on to the support sleeve (2) or into which the support sleeve (4) is slid, at least one clamping element (6) being arranged to be clampingly effective between the support sleeve (2) and the target sleeve (4), wherein a plurality of elastically active clamping elements (6) are provided which are distributed around the circumference and are formed in each case by a spring, and which are arranged in a recess (8) in the internal cylindrical surface of the target sleeve (4) or in the external cylindrical surface of the support sleeve (2) in a captive manner on the part carrying them (support sleeve or target sleeve) and press elastically against the external cylindrical surface or internal cylindrical surface located opposite said clamping elements (6); wherein the clamping elements (6) are in each case made of elastically deformable and/or elastically compressible material; wherein the clamping elements (6) are made of synthetic material in that particles or fibres of electrically and/or thermally conductive material are embedded in the material of the clamping elements (6); and wherein the clamping elements (6) have in each case, at least on their inner side, a convexly rounded cross-sectional form and the base of the recess is rounded correspondingly, wherein the clamping elements (6) are in each case formed by an angled spring, in particular an angled leaf spring, comprising the clamping arm (6a) and a base arm (6e), and wherein the base arm (6e) is wedged between the side walls of the recess (8).

2. (Previously Presented) Target support assembly according to claim 1, wherein the clamping elements (6) have rounded or oblique insertion edges (6b, 6c) on both sides facing in the axial direction.
3. (Previously Presented) Target support assembly according to claim 1 or 2, wherein to exert their clamping pressure the clamping elements (6) have in each case a clamping arm (6a) that exerts the clamping pressure with its free end portion.
4. (Previously Presented) Target support assembly according to claim 3, wherein an insertion segment (6c) is arranged at the free end of the clamping arm (6a) and forms an angled or rounded roof-shaped element with the clamping arm (6a).
5. (Previously Presented) Target support assembly according to claim 4, wherein the free end of the insertion segment (6c) is supported against the clamping stress in the clamping position.
6. (Previously Presented) Target support assembly according to claim 3, wherein the clamping elements (6) are wedged between the side walls of a recess (8).

Claims 7 and 8 (Cancelled).

9. (Currently Amended) Target support assembly according to claim [[8]] 1, wherein one or more of said recesses (8) is/are formed as grooves (8a, 8b) selectively extending in the circumferential or axial direction or helically.

10. (Previously Presented) Target support assembly according to claim 9, wherein the groove or grooves extending in the circumferential direction is/are formed in each case by an annular groove.

Claims 11 and 12 (Cancelled).

13. (Currently Amended) Target support assembly according to claim [[7]] 1, wherein the clamping elements (6) have, at least in the area of an opening of the recess (8), a shape that is convex, in particular rounded, viewed transversely to the axial direction of the support.

14. (Previously Presented) Target support assembly according to claim 13, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the clamping elements (6) and the recess (8) have an annular configuration.

Claim 15 (Cancelled).

16. (Previously Presented) Target support assembly according to claim 1, wherein the length (L1) of the support sleeve (2) is greater than the length (L2) of the target sleeve (4) and at least one annular limiting part (9) is fixed detachably on the support sleeve (2) at one or both ends of the target sleeve (4).